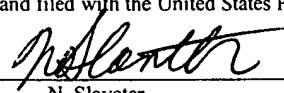


#5

PATENT
Docket No. 24540-20040.00

CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on January 9, 2002.


N. Slaveter

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Takashi KONDO et al.

Serial No.: to be assigned

Filing Date: January 9, 2002

For: IMAGE DATA RETRIEVAL
APPARATUS AND METHOD
CAPABLE OF FACILITATING
RETRIEVAL OF DESIRED IMAGE
DATA FROM IMAGE DATABASE

Examiner: to be assigned

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

JCS25 U.S. PRO
10/040379
01/09/02

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted with the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 245402004000. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: January 9, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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